

## RULE

### Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

#### Bulletin 741—Adult Education Program

In accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Administrative Procedure Act, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has adopted numerous amendments to the Adult Education Program policies and standards which are included in Bulletin 741, Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators. These changes are for the purpose of clarification and/or to incorporate policies and practices that have been recommended for implementation in the statewide GED Testing Program and Adult Education Program. These amendments, printed below, will be incorporated into Bulletin 741 along with the other numerous revisions.

#### **Adult Education Program**

1.124.00 The Adult Education program shall be administered by the State Department of Education (SDE) and operated by the local governing authority.

Refer to *Louisiana State Plan for Adult Education*, and R.S. 17:14 for administration of the program

#### **Requirements for Taking the General Educational Development (GED) Test**

1.124.02 A student shall be 17 years of age or older, in order to be authorized to be administered the General Educational Development (GED) Test. A married or emancipated individual may be permitted to take the General Educational Development (GED) test at 16 years of age and above. A student who has attained the age of 16 and qualified to take the test of GED may request an age waiver if a bona fide hardship exists. Such waiver must be approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) prior to taking the GED test. Individuals 15 years of age and below shall not be permitted to take the GED test under any circumstances.

1.124.03 To qualify for recommendation to take the General Educational Development (GED) Test, a student shall be a veteran or member of the armed forces or shall enroll in an adult education program and take the California Achievement Test or the Test of Adult Basic Education at the high school level. An average score of 12.9, with no subject matter area below 12.0, shall be attained by the individual to be authorized to take the General Educational Development (GED) Test. Certifying qualifying scores on the California Achievement Test or the Test of Adult Basic Education is the responsibility of the adult education supervisor in the local school district.

1.124.04 The test of General Educational Development (GED) may not be administered to candidates who are enrolled in an accredited high school, or have graduated from an accredited high school, or have received a high school equivalency diploma.

#### **Requirements for Passing the General Educational Development (GED) Test**

1.124.05 A student shall earn a standard score of 40 or above on each of the five sections of the test of General Educational Development (GED). If any one or more of the scores on the initial testing is below 40, the student shall earn a minimum average score of 45 on all sections.

1.124.06 The same form shall be used on all five tests when a student is being administered the General Educational Development (GED) Test.

#### **Requirements for Retesting on the General Educational Development (GED) Test.**

1.124.07 A student other than a veteran or member of the armed forces shall receive instruction in the area(s) of deficiency until such time as the instructor certifies the student to be proficient in the failed section(s). A veteran or member of the armed forces may receive instruction if the individual desires. A student may not be retested before 30 days have elapsed since the student last tested.

1.124.08 Retesting shall be done on a form of the test different from the one originally used in testing. No form may be used a second time. If more than one test is being repeated by a student, all retests shall be on the same form.

1.124.09 The department will retain records of a student's unsuccessful attempts to pass the GED test for only five years following the individuals last attempt to pass the test. The student must retest on all five sections of the GED test should the five years elapse.

1.124.10 The student shall score a minimum of 40 on each of the retested sections.

#### **Issuance of Equivalency Diplomas**

1.124.11 A high school equivalency diploma will be issued from a state approved high school after the student has successfully completed the test of General Educational Development (GED).

1.124.12 The high school equivalency diploma shall be issued from the last high school the student attended, the high school nearest the student's legal residence, the high school nearest to the publicly supported institution of higher learning to which the student is academically admissible, or the high school which has been officially designated by a local school system for that purpose.

1.124.13 High school equivalency diplomas shall be issued only through state approved high schools, and the student shall be considered a graduate of the school through which the diploma is issued.

1.124.14 A Louisiana resident who successfully completes the General Educational Development (GED) test at an official out-of-state GED testing center may be entitled to receive an equivalency diploma provided that an official copy of the GED test results and qualifying scores on the California Achievement Test or the Test of Adult Basic Education are submitted for review to the Director of the Bureau of Adult and Community Education of the Louisiana Department of Education, and the student meets all other qualifications to receive an equivalency diploma. Veterans do not need to submit qualifying scores.

1.124.15 To be eligible for an equivalency diploma based on results of the General Educational Development (GED) test, a veteran or member of the armed forces shall be a legal resident of Louisiana for six consecutive months or have formerly attended a Louisiana school.

1.124.16 A student that has earned an equivalency diploma is considered a Louisiana high school graduate in every respect.

1.124.17 A student that has received a high school equivalency diploma may return to a regular high school program but will not be allowed to participate in athletic activities.

1.124.18 Public high school equivalency diplomas shall be signed by the State Superintendent of Education, the President of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the local superintendent of schools, the local school board president, and the local high school principal.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R. S. 17:6, 17:7.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 22: (February 1996).

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